

DETAILED ACTION

According to page 11-12 of the specification, machine-readable medium is interpreted as machine-readable storage device i.e. magnetic magneto optical disks, or optical disks, memory devices.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The indicated allowability of claims 1-20 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Vikberg (U.S. 7, 283, 518 B2) and Sylvain (u.s. 724, 801 B1). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-12 and 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Vikberg (U.S. 7, 283, 518 B2).

With respect to claims 1, 10, 19, Vikberg teaches) An machine-readable medium storing instructions for causing data processing apparatus (See e.g. Co. 33, Lines 6-7) / a telecommunications system (See Fig. 9) / a method for routing calls (See routing telephony voice service, co. 2, Line 51, call set-up, Co. 2, Line 64-66, routing communication (or call) path, Co. 23, Lines 29-30) in a distributed mobile switching center environment (See e.g. mobile networks (PLMNs), switching mechanism for multiple networks, Co. 2, Lines 42-48, Fig. 9) , the method comprising: receiving a call to (See e.g. 1500

Art Unit: 2617

of Fig. 15, 1700 of Fig. 17) be routed from a first switching node (See e.g. Domain A / 705 of Fig. 9) to a second switching node (See e.g. Domain B / 705 of Fig. 9); identifying (See e.g. address space, Co. 23, Line 32, Co. 21, Lines 39-40) an inter-switch route (See e.g. (B) inter-domain signaling link / (D) inter-domain leased link of Fig. 9) for the call from the first switching node (See e.g. Domain A / 705 of Fig. 9) to the second switching node (See e.g. (B) inter-domain signaling link (D) inter-domain leased link of Fig. 9), the inter-switch route including an intermediate switching node (See e.g. 215 of Figs 7B, 9) , wherein the intermediate switching node (See e.g. 215 of Fig. 9) includes a plurality of media gateways (See Mobile Gateways (GMs) 625s of Fig. 9); selecting (See e.g. 1520 / determining or selecting, of Figs. 15, 1720 of Fig. 17) an intra-switch route (See e.g. (A)s of intra-domain links Fig. 9) within the intermediate switching node (See e.g. 215 of Fig. 9) from a plurality of intra-switch routes (See e.g. (A)s of intra-domain links Fig. 9) within the intermediate switching node (See e.g. 215 of Fig. 9) for establishing the inter-switch route (See e.g. (B) inter-domain signaling link (D) inter-domain leased link of Fig. 9), each of the plurality of intra-switch routes including at least one interconnection between media gateways (See e.g. (B) inter-domain signaling link / (D) inter-domain leased link of Fig. 9); and connecting the call using the identified inter-switch route and the selected intra-switch route (See e.g. 1530-1570 of Fig. 15, 1730-140 of Fig. 17).

Regarding claims 2, 11, 20, Vikberg teaches identifying the inter-switch route (See e.g. 1065 comprises selecting the inter-switch route (See e.g. table or list 1065 of Fig. 10B) from a list of inter-switch routes (See e.g. 1075 of Fig. 10B) for use with calls to be routed from the first switching node (See e.g. Domain A / 705 of Fig. 9) to the second switching node (See e.g. Domain B / 705 of Fig. 9).

Regarding claims 3, 12, Vikberg teaches determining an availability of the identified inter-switch route; and determining an availability of the at least one interconnection of the selected intra-switch route (See e.g. 1530-1540 of Fig. 15).

Regarding claims 4, 15 Vikberg teaches determining an unavailability of a candidate intra-switch route based on an unavailability of at least one interconnection, wherein selecting the intra-switch route is performed in response to determining the unavailability of the candidate intra-switch route (See e.g. 1540-1560 of Fig. 15, restriction or not available).

Regarding claim 5, Vikberg teaches selecting an intra-switch route (See e.g. (A)s of intra-domain links Fig. 9) comprises selecting (See e.g. 1520 / determining or selecting, of Figs. 15, 1720 of Fig. 17) the intra-switch route from a list of intra-switch routes associated with the identified inter-switch route (See e.g. table or list 1065 / 1075 of Fig. 10B), the list of intra-switch routes including the plurality of intra-switch routes (See e.g. 1520 / determining or selecting, of Figs. 15, 1720 of Fig. 17).

Regarding claim 6, Vikberg teaches the intermediate switching node is associated with a plurality of trunks, at least one of the plurality of trunks connecting the intermediate switching node to the first switching node and at least one of the plurality of trunks connecting the intermediate switching node to the second switching node, and each interconnection comprising an interconnection between media gateways (See e.g. Co. 25, Line 61 – Co. 26 Line 5).

Regarding claims 7, 14, Vikberg teaches selecting the intra-switch route comprises selecting the intra-switch according to a selection algorithm (See Algorithm as shown in Figs. 15 and 17).

Regarding claim 8, Vikberg teaches translating a received directory number for the call, the received directory number (See e.g. STM/GPN translation table 339, Co. 13, Lines 19-31, Co. 14, Lines 57 –67) for use in selecting the list of inter-switch routes (See e.g. 1520 / determining or selecting, of Figs. 15, 1720 of Fig. 17).

Regarding claims 9, 17, Vikberg teaches the plurality of media gateways are operable to handle bearer traffic, each of the plurality of media gateways operating under control of a server using signaling traffic associated with the bearer traffic (See e.g. Co. 26-MGC, MGs, traffic trunk interconnect, bearer setup, Co. 26, Line 58 - Co. 27, Line 12).

Regarding claim 16, Vikberg teaches the server (See e.g. MGC of Fig. 15) is operable to identify an unavailability of a circuit in an initially selected intra-switch route and, in response to identifying the unavailability, to select an alternate intra-switch route and that uses a different circuit on the initially selected intra-switch route or a different intra-switch route having at least one alternate interconnection (See e.g. 1500-1570 of Fig. 15).

Regarding claim 18, Vikberg teaches the server handles signaling traffic for the distributed mobile switching center and the plurality of media gateways handle bearer traffic (See e.g. Co. 26-MGC, MGs,

Art Unit: 2617

traffic trunk interconnect, bearer setup, Co. 26, Line 58 - Co. 27, Line 12) for the distributed mobile switching center (See e.g. mobile networks (PLMNs), switching mechanism for multiple networks, Co. 2, Lines 42-48, Fig. 9).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 13 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 13, the prior art of record fails to disclose singly or in combination to render obvious that the first switching node comprises an origination switching node for the call connection destined for a third switching node, the first switching node operable to select an inter-switch route from a list of routes for routing call connections from the first switching node to the third switching node, the selected inter-switch route including the second switching node, and the server operable to select the intra-switch route in response to a message from the first switching node.

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a) Sylvain (U.S. 724, 801 B1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Kamran Afshar whose telephone number is (571) 272-7796. The examiner can be reached on Monday-Friday.

Art Unit: 2617

If attempts to reach the examiner by the telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Eng, George** can be reached @ (571) 272-7495. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300** for all communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Kamran Afshar/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617